Applicant: Nobuo Imamura et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 15682-017US1 / OSP-19442

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A chip removal method that removes for removing residue such as chips that have remained in and adhered to an interior of a bag-shaped machined hole in a work piece, the method comprising: wherein

providing an air blow nozzle with a spiral flow creating portion in a distal end portion thereof, wherein the spiral flow creating portion has a plurality of guide pieces that are twisted into a screw shape to change air flow therein into a spiral flow; and

directing air that is jetted out of the nozzle against a bottom portion of the machined hole, wherein the after air [[is]] jetted out and blown directed against [[a]] the bottom portion of the machined hole by using an air blow nozzle to change a flow of air that is circulating inside a nozzle into a spiral flow that moves in a direction towards the bottom portion of the machined hole, this spiral flow blows upward[[s]] like a tornado from a vicinity of the bottom portion of the machined hole in a direction toward[[s]] an aperture portion of the machined hole so that the residue inside the machined hole is uplifted by the spiral flow and removed.

2. (Currently Amended) A chip removal air blow nozzle that removes arranged to remove residue such as chips that have remained in and adhered to an interior of a bag-shaped machined hole in a work piece comprising:

a nozzle distal end portion that is <u>adapted to be</u> inserted into the machined hole; and a spiral flow creating portion that is provided in the nozzle distal end portion and changes a flow of air that is <u>circulating flowing</u> inside the nozzle into a spiral flow,

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wherein the spiral flow creating section has a plurality of guide pieces that are formed at the distal end portion of the nozzle and are twisted into a screw shape.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) The chip removal air blow nozzle according to claim 2 <u>arranged so that</u>, wherein, when the machined hole is a female threaded hole, the spiral flow turns in a direction in which [[the]] <u>a</u> thread of the machined hole is loosened.

- 5. (New) The chip removal air blow nozzle according to claim 2 arranged so that when air is being blown from the air blow nozzle into the machined hole, a solenoid valve for an air supply hose that is connected to an air supply source is operable to be intermittently opened and closed.
- 6. (New) The chip removal air blow nozzle according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of guide pieces comprises three notch portions, wherein the three notch portions are formed at 120° intervals in the nozzle distal end portion, wherein the three notch portions are inclined at an angle which is between 30° and 45° relative to an axial direction of the air blow nozzle, and wherein the three notch portions have lengths in a range of 4 millimeters to 6 millimeters from the nozzle distal end portion.